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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/629,961 | 07/30/2003 | Ruthie D. Lyle | RPS920030028US1 | 8894 |
| 25299 | 7590 | 08/02/2004 | EXAMINER | |
| IBM CORPORATION PO BOX 12195 DEPT 9CCA, BLDG 002 RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27709 | | | WALBERG, TERESA J | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 3742 | |

DATE MAILED: 08/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/629,961 | LYLE ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Teresa J. Walberg | 3742 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/30/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 7, 12, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DiFonzo et al (6,411,505) in view of Chang (5,828,034).

DiFonzo et al disclose a portable computer system including a lid housing a display screen (see Fig. 1); a base hingedly coupled to the lid and housing processing hardware beneath a keyboard unit, the base comprising a ventilation unit (see Fig. 2) that disperses heat generated by operation of the processing hardware.

DiFonzo et al do not disclose an adjustable ventilation interface to change the direction of the warm air output and does not teach the use of the warm air to warm a user's hands.

Chang teaches providing adjustable air output vents (27) for a computer keyboard and also teaches using the air output to warm a user's hands (see abstract). The air output vents (27) have inclined vanes (28) and can be rotated to adjust the direction of the air flow (see col. 3, lines 50-54). Airflow is also provided between the keys of the keyboard (see Fig. 2b).

It would have been obvious in view of Chang to provide adjustable air vents for the keyboard of DiFonzo et al and to enable use of the warm air output for hand

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warming, the motivation being to keep the computer user from getting cold hands and to enable manual control of the air output.

3. Claims 2-6, 8-11, and 14-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DiFonzo (6,411,505) in view of Chang (5,828,034) as applied to claim s 1, 7, 12, and 13 above, and further in view of Toy (6,029,901).

DiFonzo (6,411,505) in view of Chang (5,828,034) disclose the claimed structure with the exception of a slidable manual controller adjacent to the vent openings to adjust closure of the openings.

Toy discloses a manually slidable controller (40) to control the amount of airflow through openings (37).

It would have been obvious in view of Toy to use a manually slidable closure with the vents of DiFonzo in view of Chang, the motivation being to control the amount of air flowing through the vents.

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Song et al and Reitz are cited to show air flow used with computer peripherals.

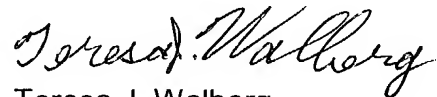
Haglid, Vaillancourt et al, Bhatia, and Koopman are cited to show adjustable closures for air flow vents.

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5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Teresa J. Walberg whose telephone number is 703-308-1327. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00 - 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robin Evans can be reached on 703-305-5766. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Teresa J. Walberg
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3742

tjw